

Surface Water Intake Protection

Upper Mississippi River Forum

Surface Water Intake Protection Background

- 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act required MDH to prepare Source Water Assessment (SWA).
- Outgrowth of SWA.
- Requested by public water suppliers.
- Not mandatory in MN.
- Minnesota Department of Health convened a workgroup.
- Report release early 2004.
- Needs to be revised.

Goals of SWP Planning

- Provide a consistent and agreed upon methodology for Minnesota.
- Identify drinking water goals and management strategies that can be integrated into existing plans and programs.
- Include public participation in plan development and implementation.

Multi-Barrier Approach

- Standards and Treatment.
- Distribution of the Water.
- User Information.
- Prevention – Source Water Protection.

Why Emphasize Prevention?

- More effective and cost-efficient.
- Protect large community investment in public water supply system, which is needed for growth and development.
- Protect public health from short-term or long-term effects of consuming contaminated drinking water.

Meaning of Source Water Protection(SWP)

- Measures have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented to reduce the risk of potential contamination of the source water.

Goals of SWP

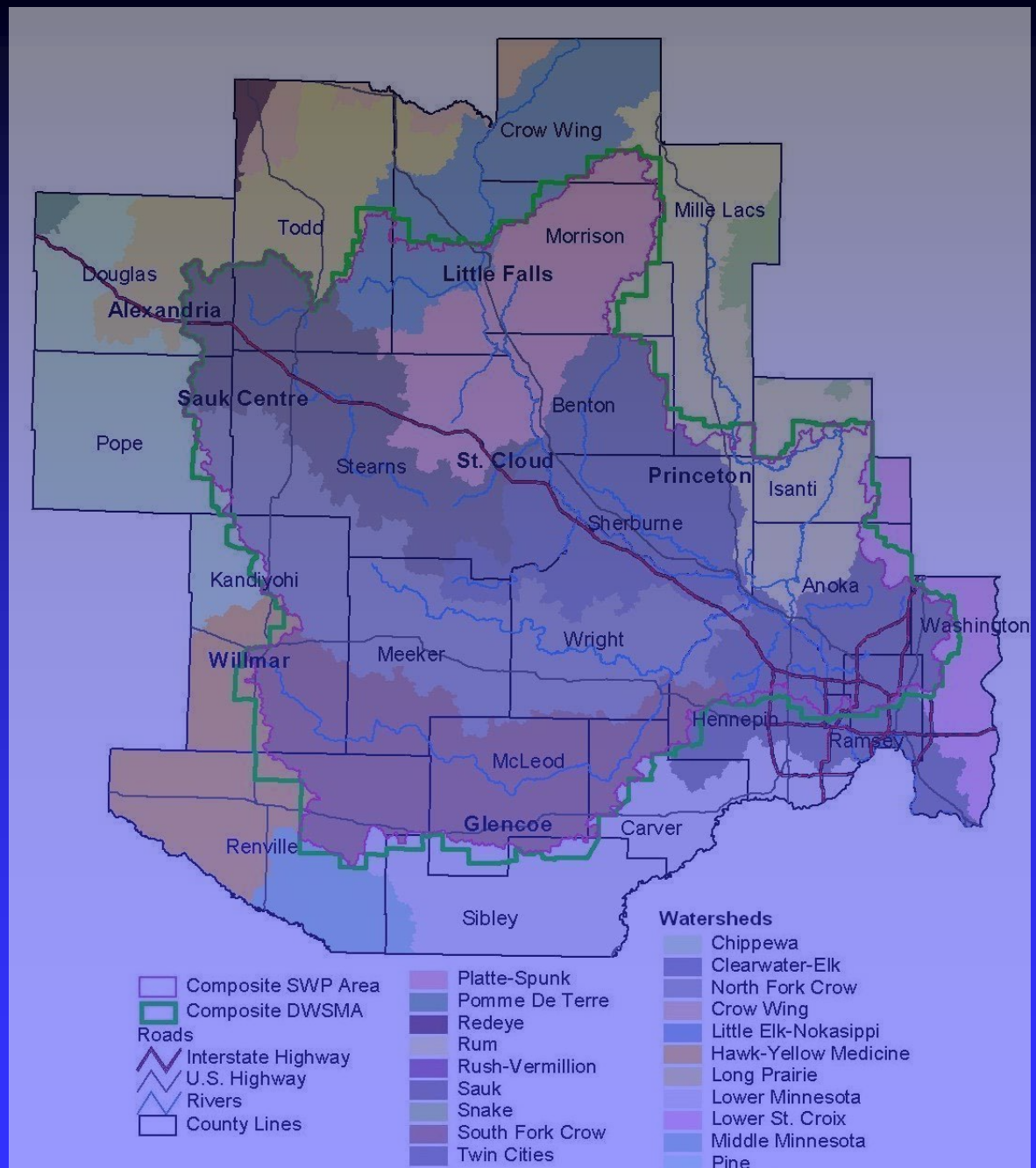
- Address acute and chronic health.
- Implementation buy-in.
- Cost-effectiveness.
- Sustainable source water resource.
- Pollutant reduction.

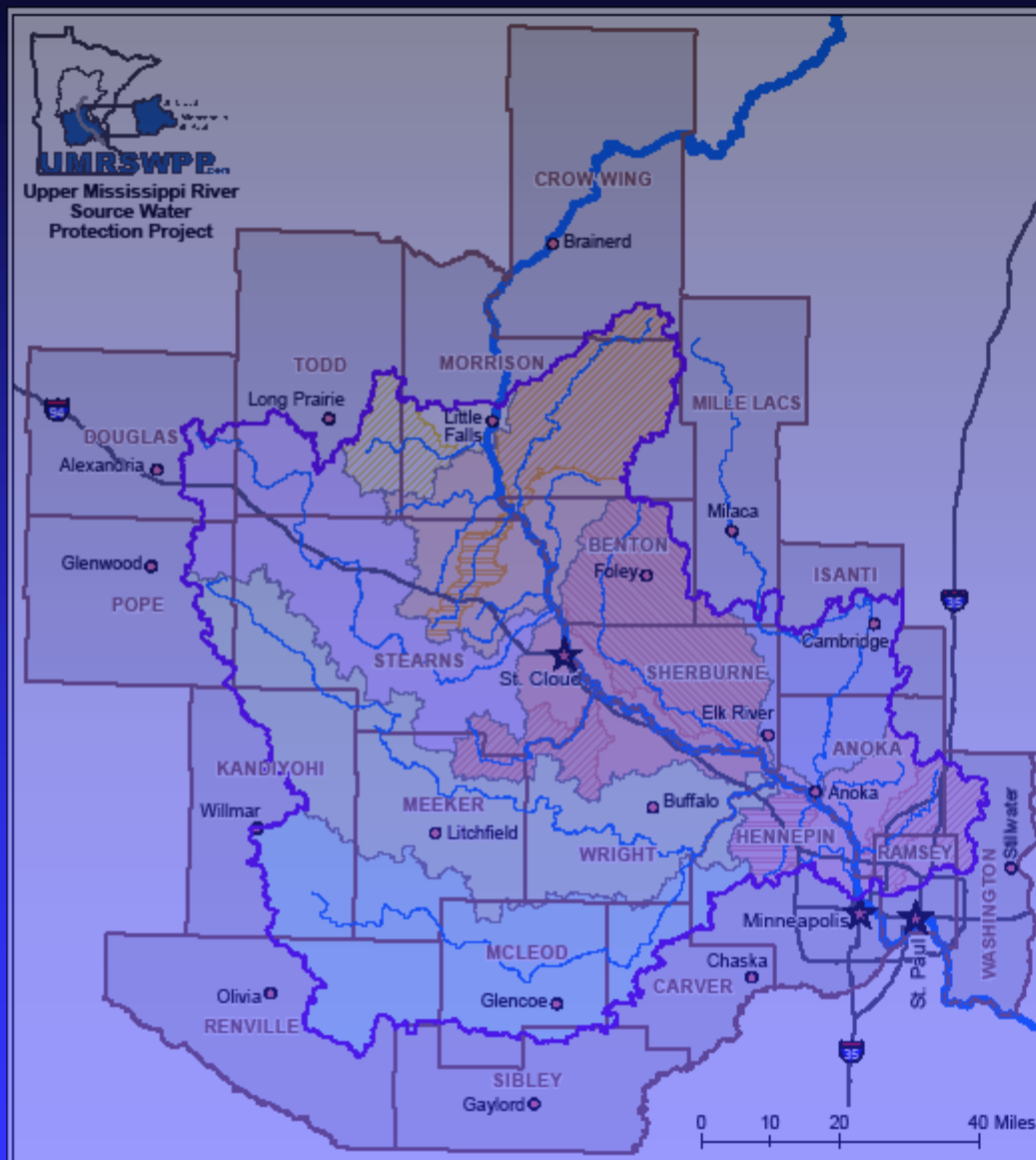
Surface Water Intake Protection Plan

- A document which includes:
 - ◆ delineation of the SWPA and DWSMA.
 - ◆ an assessment of the system's sensitivity and susceptibility to contamination.
 - ◆ description of potential contaminant sources,
 - ◆ identification of management strategies to prevent the contamination of the source water.

Current Status

- Pilot Project with Minneapolis, St. Paul and St. Cloud have been endorsed by MDH.

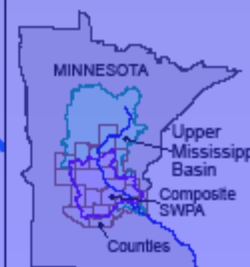




Composite Source Water Protection Area (SWPA) for St. Cloud, St. Paul and Minneapolis

- Source Water Protection Area
 - County Boundary
 - Mississippi River
 - Tributary River or Stream
 - Interstate Highway
- Cities**
- Source Water City
 - County Seat
- Major Watersheds**
- Mississippi River-Brainerd
 - Mississippi River - Sartell
 - Sauk River
 - Mississippi River-St. Cloud
 - Rum River
 - North Fork Crow River
 - South Fork Crow River
 - Mississippi River - Twin Cities
- Tributary Watersheds**
- Swan River
 - Spunk Creek
 - Clearwater River
 - Elm Creek
 - Platte River
 - Elk River
 - Rice Creek

Watershed Information is from Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Division of Waters, Minnesota Watersheds, 1999.

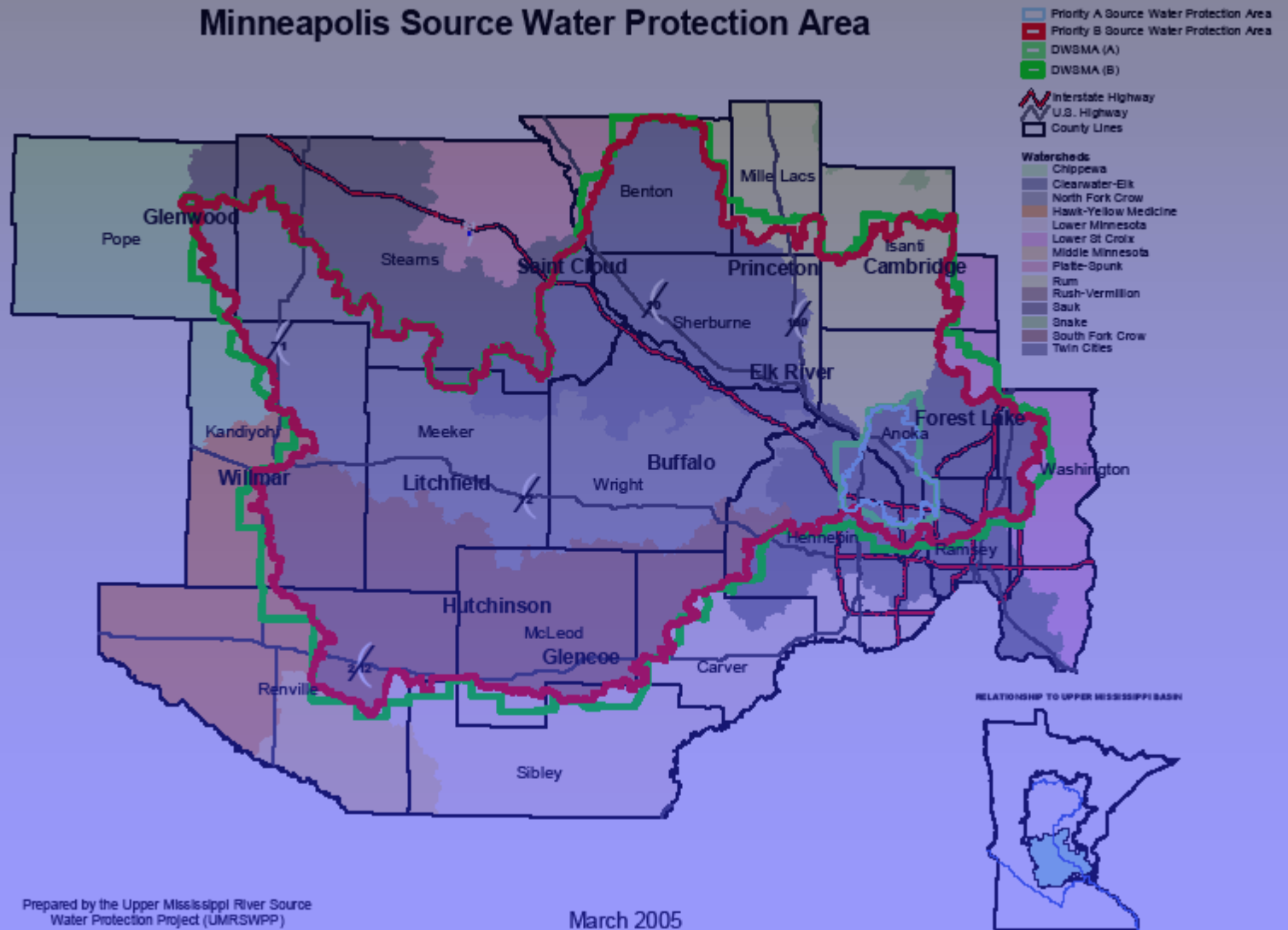


Prepared by Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

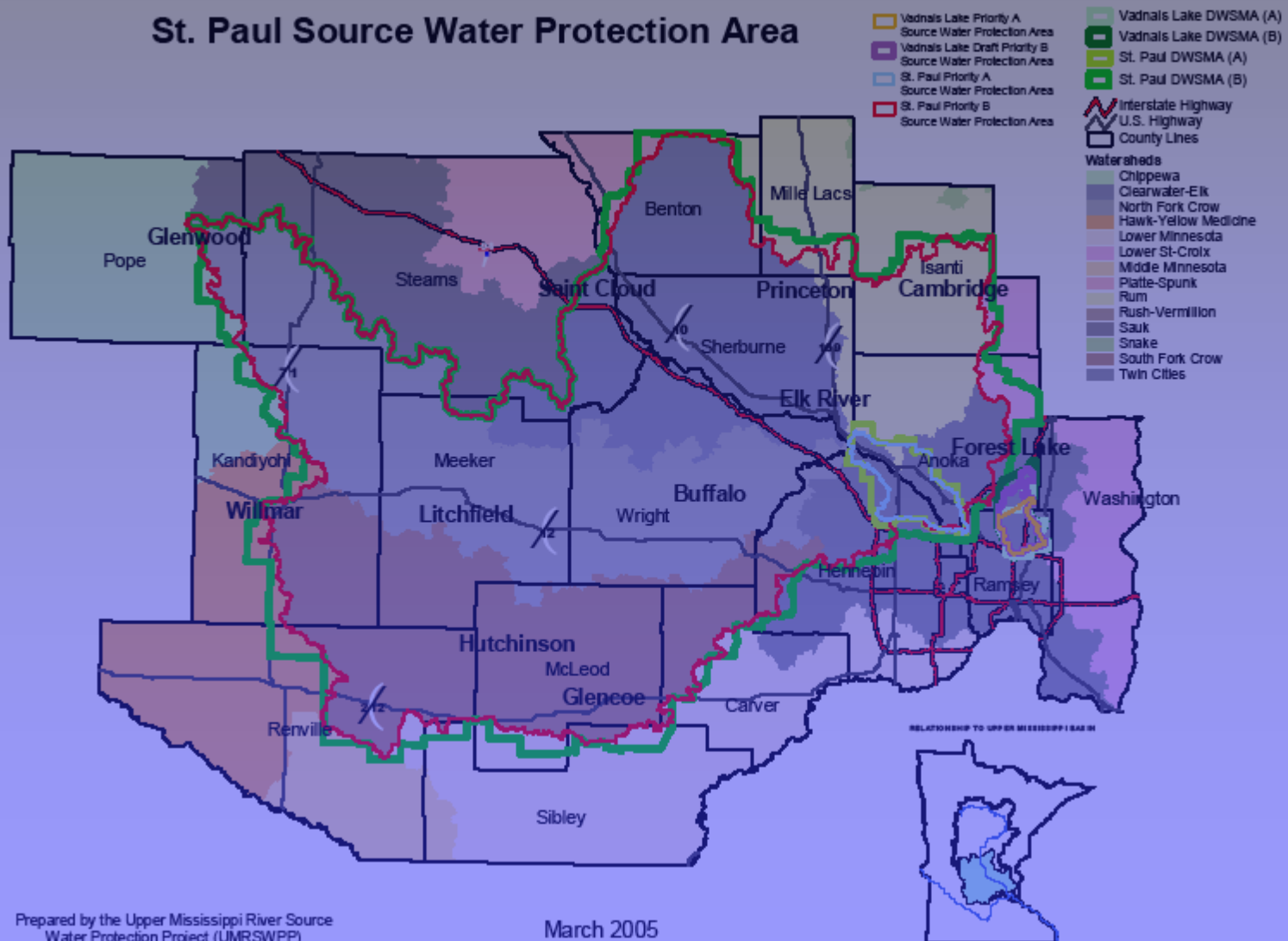


November 2009

Minneapolis Source Water Protection Area



St. Paul Source Water Protection Area



Priority Contaminants of Concern

- List of EPA's Drinking Water Standards.
- Total suspended solids.
- Cryptosporidium.
- Nutrients.
- Pesticides.
- Organic solvents.
- Pharmaceuticals..
- Endocrine-disrupting chemicals.
- Radioactive materials.

Reasons for Concern

- High levels of certain contaminants.
- Limitation of water treatment measures.
- Contributes to the formation of disinfection byproducts.
- Lack of monitoring data.
- Lack of knowledge regarding the contaminant, sources and health effects.

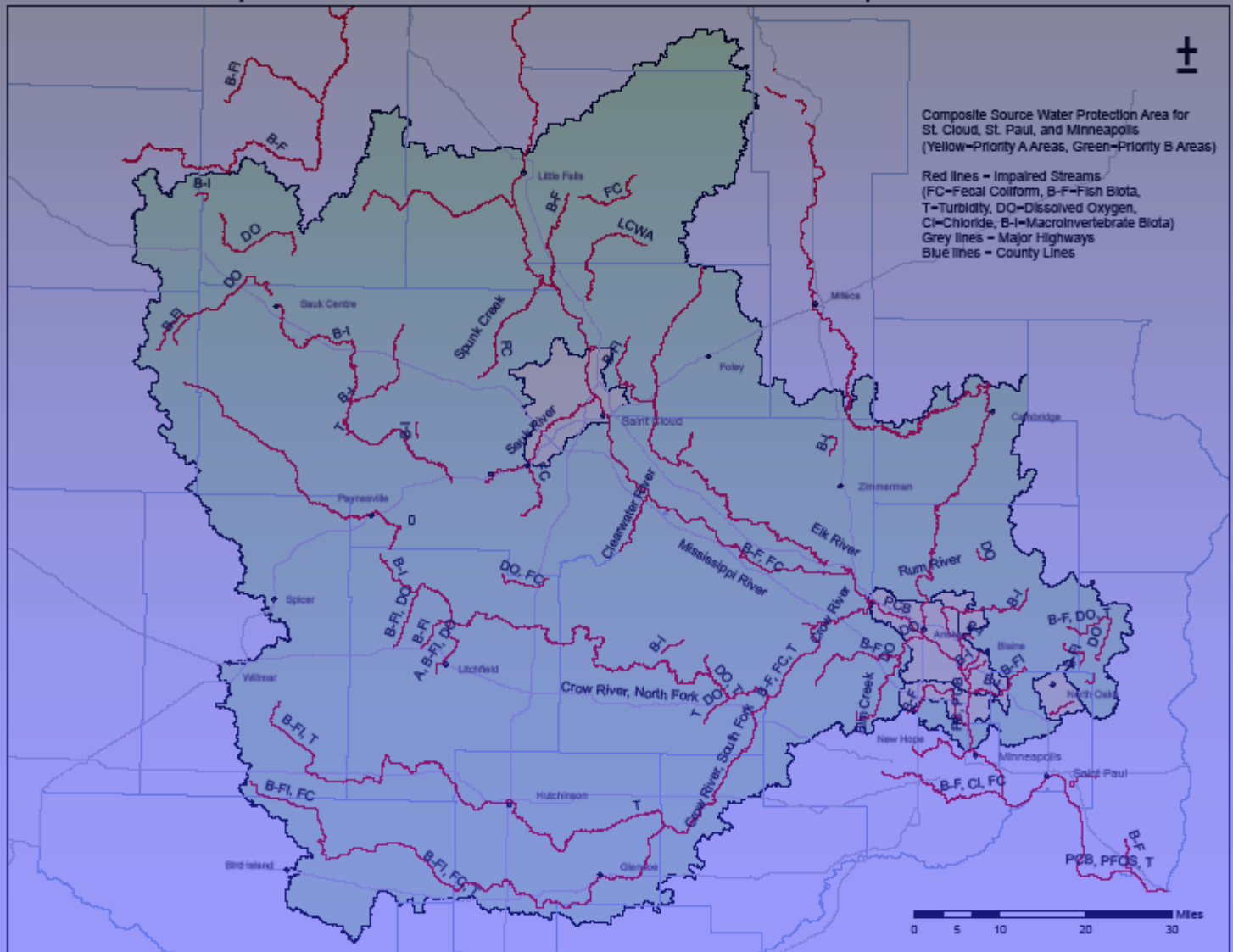
Management Strategies

- Public Education- Use of the river as a source of drinking water .
- Spill Response – River Defense Network.
- Support watershed management – Meeting with water management groups.
- Stormwater management – MS4 Cities required to address impacts on drinking water sources.

Management Strategies Cont'd

- TMDL Program –Joint efforts on the Upper Miss Project.
- Shoreland Program – Include drinking water concerns rule revisions.
- Surface Water Classification – Aligning PCA classification with the SWP areas.

Composite Source Water Protection Area and Impaired Streams



The Challenges

- Balance of competing uses of the river when various entities oversee these uses.
- Communicate the fact that the Mississippi River is a source of drinking water.
- Develop and communicate consistent and appropriate messages.
- Integrate the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

QUESTIONS???

